

Trees and Streetlights





REDUCING EMISSIONS WITH TREES AND ENERGY EFFICIENT STREETLIGHTS

Trees and improved streetlights will bring significant environmental and



social benefits to the City of San José. Presently, the community forest is made up of trees on streets, in parks, and on private property. A single tree sequesters about 0.035 metric tons of carbon over a 10-year period. Planting 100,000 additional trees will result in a sequestration of 3,550 metric tons of CO₂ over 10 years. Trees also provide shade, reduce air conditioning bills, filter air pollutants, and boost property values.

Replacing all 62,000 of San José's streetlights with smart, energy-efficient LED lights will help reduce operational costs and reduce associated CO₂ emissions. Additionally dimming the lights (an average of 30% for half the night), will reduce energy consumption further.

WHAT WE ARE DOING

-  Documenting the size and species composition of the community forest by conducting a comprehensive street tree inventory.
-  Developing a Tree Policy and a Best Management Practice Manual, and collaborating with the U.S. Forest Service on an urban Canopy Study.
-  Converting more of our existing streetlights to reduce energy use and costs while protecting astronomical research.
-  Working with streetlight industry and other stakeholders to lead efforts related to advancing technology development, establishing design standards, researching options to finance conversions, and collaborating with PG&E on a pilot billing program for adaptive LED lights.

GET INVOLVED

-  Learn more about the City's community forest program and the City's smart, zero emission streetlight conversion effort at www.sanjoseca.gov/transportation.
-  Volunteer with Our City Forest at www.OurCityForest.org.

ABOUT THE GREEN VISION

The San José Green Vision, a 15-year plan adopted in 2007, charts ambitious goals for clean tech jobs, energy use reduction, renewable energy, green building, waste reduction, water reuse, sustainable development, clean fleet, trees, zero emission streetlights and interconnected trails. The plan is designed to lead us into a future of economic growth, environmental sustainability and an enhanced quality of life for our community.

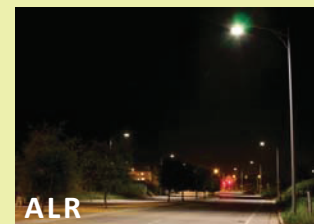
Learn more: <http://greenvision.sanjoseca.gov/>

GOAL

Plant 100,000 New Trees and Replace 100% of Streetlights with Smart, Zero Emission Lighting

HIGHLIGHTS

- Our City Forest, a key partner, is offering trees at nominal cost for schools, parks, and homeowners for street and private tree planting locations
- With \$2.9 million in federal funding the City is currently replacing approximately 2,100 streetlights with adaptive LED lights. Another 1,100 lights will likely be retrofitted as part of public and private projects over the next several years. In total, these 3,500 LED lights represent approximately 6% of the City's streetlights
- The California Public Utility Commission approved a dimmable streetlight tariff pilot proposed by PG&E that the City helped draft; by participating in the pilot, the City will be able to capture savings from dimming its lights



CONTACT INFO:

For more information on trees, contact Ralph Mize at (408) 795-1915 or arborist@sanjoseca.gov

For more information on streetlights, contact Laura Stuchinsky at (408) 975-3226 or laura.stuchinsky@sanjoseca.gov



GREEN VISION GOALS

BY THE YEAR 2022:

-  1. Create 25,000 Clean Tech jobs as the World Center of Clean Tech Innovation
-  2. Reduce per capita energy use by 50 percent
-  3. Receive 100 percent of our electrical power from clean renewable sources
-  4. Build or retrofit 50 million square feet of green buildings
-  5. Divert 100 percent of the waste from our landfill and convert waste to energy
-  6. Recycle or beneficially reuse 100 percent of our wastewater (100 million gallons per day)
-  7. Adopt a General Plan with measurable standards for sustainable development
-  8. Ensure that 100 percent of public fleet vehicles run on alternative fuels
-  9. Plant 100,000 new trees and replace 100 percent of our streetlights with smart, zeroemission lighting
-  10. Create 100 miles of interconnected trails

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